

Sanford House
Redding, Connecticut

HABS CONN. 74 HABS
CONN.
1-RED
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District Of Connecticut

Historic American Buildings Survey
Harold H. Davis, District Officer
29 Whitney Ave., New Haven, Conn.

SANFORD HOUSE

Redding, Fairfield County, Conn.

Owner: Jonathan B. Sanford, Redding Conn.

Date of Erection: 1753

Architect or Builder: Reverend Nathaniel Bartlett

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two and One-half

Materials of Construction: Stone foundation
Stone Chimney
Main house sidewall shingled
Sidewalls of wing, horizontal
sheathing
Entire roof - shingled
Plank flooring

Other Existing Records: "History of Redding" - Todd.
Manuscript History of Sanford House -
Colonial Dames of America.

List of Photographs:

1. Front Elevation
2. Rear Elevation
3. Cupboard - Living Room 1st. Floor
4. East Wall of West Room - First Floor

SANFORD HOUSE

Redding, Fairfield County, Conn.

The Sanford House in Redding, Connecticut, is a fine example of the sturdy, ample houses which were built by the New England parishes for their pastors. This structure was built in 1753 by the Congregational Church of Redding for the Rev. Nathaniel Bartlett who was the second pastor of that church.

Reverend Nathaniel Bartlett served a pastorate of fifty-seven years at this church and this is supposed to have been one of the longest pastorates in New England. Like many other ministers of this period, Rev. Bartlett kept a school in his home, where he prepared young men for college. Two of his most famed pupils were Timothy Dwight who now has a college named after him at Yale University, and Joel Barlow, the famed poet and statesman. Rev. Bartlett also acted as chaplain during the Revolutionary War, and it is said the attic of the parsonage was used as a secret store for munitions. Jonathan Bartlett succeeded his father and became the third pastor of the Congregational Church.

Lemuel Sanford, who had married one of the Bartlett daughters, inherited the house and land from his father-in-law in 1847. The Sanfords, originally from Stowe, England, are direct descendants of Thomas Sanford who settled in Milford, Conn., in 1632. For three generations, including the present owner, Mr. Jonathan B. Sanford, the Sanfords have kept the town records and the probate records of Redding. All these records, as well as the offices, are housed in the ell of the house which may have been built especially for this purpose in 1848.

This old structure is not alone, for in this beautiful country along Redding Ridge there are many fine old dwellings, but few are so well kept as the Sanford House.

There is a fine example of the early type corner cupboard in one of the front rooms and some good panelling. The staircase is original and has turned banisters, not on the treads but eight in run.

SANFORD HOUSE

Redding, Fairfield County, Conn.

The present owner, who is in direct descent from the original builder, talks readily of the house and its distinguished inhabitants, and is apparently rightfully proud of his relationship to such fine and admirable ancestry.

Source of Information: "History of Redding" - Todd
Manuscript History of Sanford House -
Colonial Dames of America.

Conversation with Mr. Jonathan B.
Sanford.

Author:

John F. Flanagan

Approved:

Harold H. Davis Feb. 27-1939